



# Transition to Hydrogen with NGV Technology

---

Natural Gas Vehicle Technology Forum

August 2-4, 2005

Alan Welch

***Westport***  
INNOVATIONS INC.



# Westport's Gaseous Technology

---

- Cummins-Westport and Westport have evolved gaseous fuel technology for several natural gas engines.
- Base NG technology:
  - ▶ **Low pressure fuel:** Otto-cycle /single point mixing in intake manifold for spark-ignited engines.
  - ▶ **Higher pressure fuel:** diesel-like / late-cycle direct injection with ignition assist
    - Diesel pilot
    - Hot surface ignition
    - Spark ignition (future option)
- NGV Technology can definitely be used for Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engines (H<sub>2</sub>-ICE)



# Key Hydrogen Properties / Behavior in Engines

---

- **Hydrogen Properties**

- ▶ Low ignition energy (1/10 of that for gasoline).
- ▶ High flame speed (9 times that of gasoline).
- ▶ Very broad flammability range (allowing unique potential for emission control) .
- ▶ Lower volumetric energy density/high speed of sound

- **Hydrogen Engine Characteristics:**

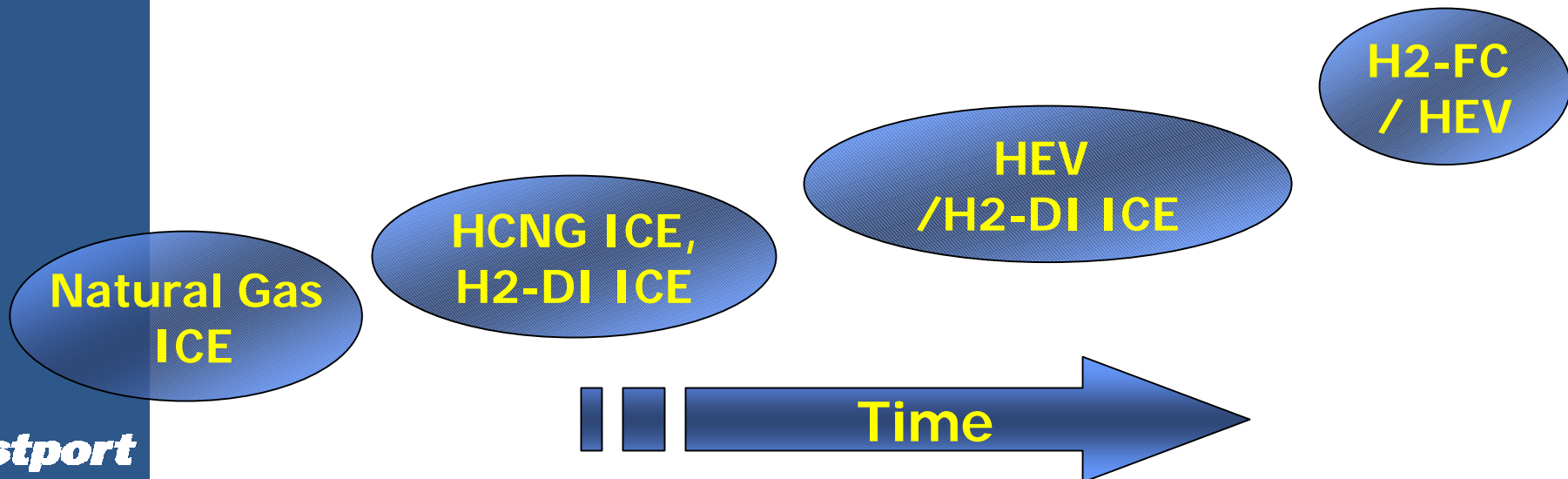
- ▶ Tendency to pre-ignite during compression.
- ▶ Very fast burning rates.
- ▶ Very low temperature combustion possible.
- ▶ Fuel injection system requires ~20% larger flow area as compared to CNG
- ▶ **For external mixing of fuel:** Theoretical loss of up to 30% air flow due to volumetric displacement by  $H_2$  in intake manifold/cylinder.



# Rationale for H<sub>2</sub> ICE Technology

## Engine technology roadmap

- Internal combustion engines (ICE) are very well developed and increasingly sophisticated.
- There is a pipeline of efficiency improving technologies that can still be used.
- Adapting high efficiency ICE's to hydrogen/natural gas mixtures or to hydrogen would result in very cost effective power plants for near to medium term.
- ICE development would be part of a long term H<sub>2</sub> roadmap:





# Westport and CWI Primary Markets/Partners

## CNG - Transit Bus



## LNG - Heavy Duty Truck



## CNG - Power Generation



## CNG - Medium-Duty Truck



**ISUZU**

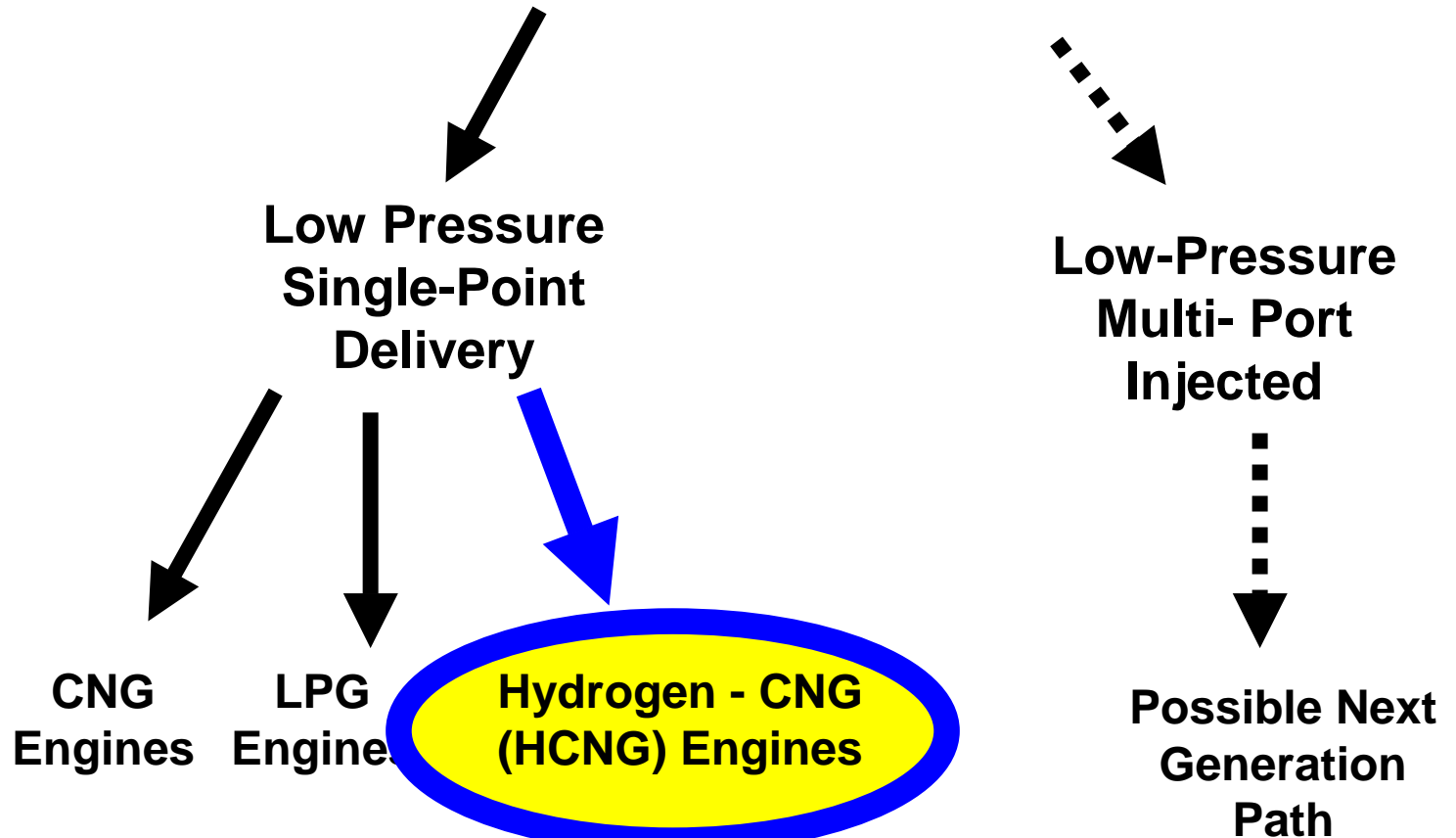
## Hydrogen Research





# Low Pressure Technology Applications

## Otto Cycle (Spark-Ignited)



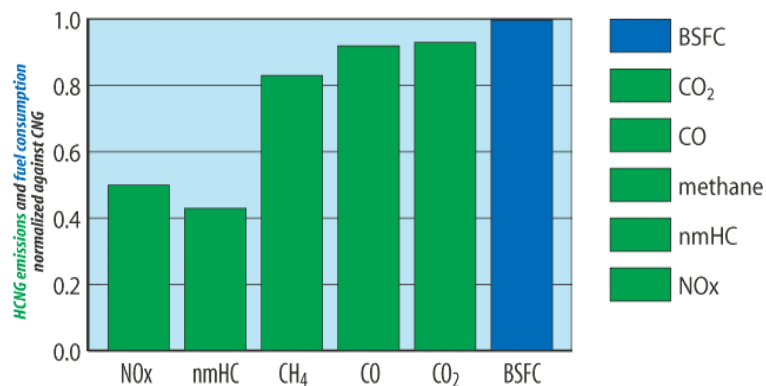
**Westport**





# HCNG: SunLine Transit Demonstration

- CWI 230HP, 5.9L spark-ignited lean-burn B Gas Plus natural gas engine modified to operate on an optimized HCNG fuel blend
  - ▶ 20 vol% H<sub>2</sub> / 80 vol% CNG
  - ▶ 230 hp / 500 lb-ft (replicates base engine)
- Transient emissions testing of the four buses
  - ▶ NOx & nMHC reduced by ~50%.
- Energy consumption unchanged. CO<sub>2</sub> reduced by 7%.
- Duration: 2002 – 2004
  - ▶ 65,000 vehicle-miles in field trials for 2 HCNG buses
- Funding: NREL (U.S. DOE ), South Coast AQMD





# HCNG: 4 Buses in Vancouver (2005-2008)



- Upgrade/calibrate CWI 280HP 8.3L C Gas Plus engines for HCNG.
- Hydrogen for HCNG via capture and purification of waste hydrogen (sodium chlorate plant).
- Potential to be showcased as part of the B.C. Hydrogen Highway Initiative.

• IWHUP (Integrated Waste Hydrogen Utilization Project) is an \$18,000,000 initiative to harness recycled waste hydrogen

• Industry/Canadian Government Partners:

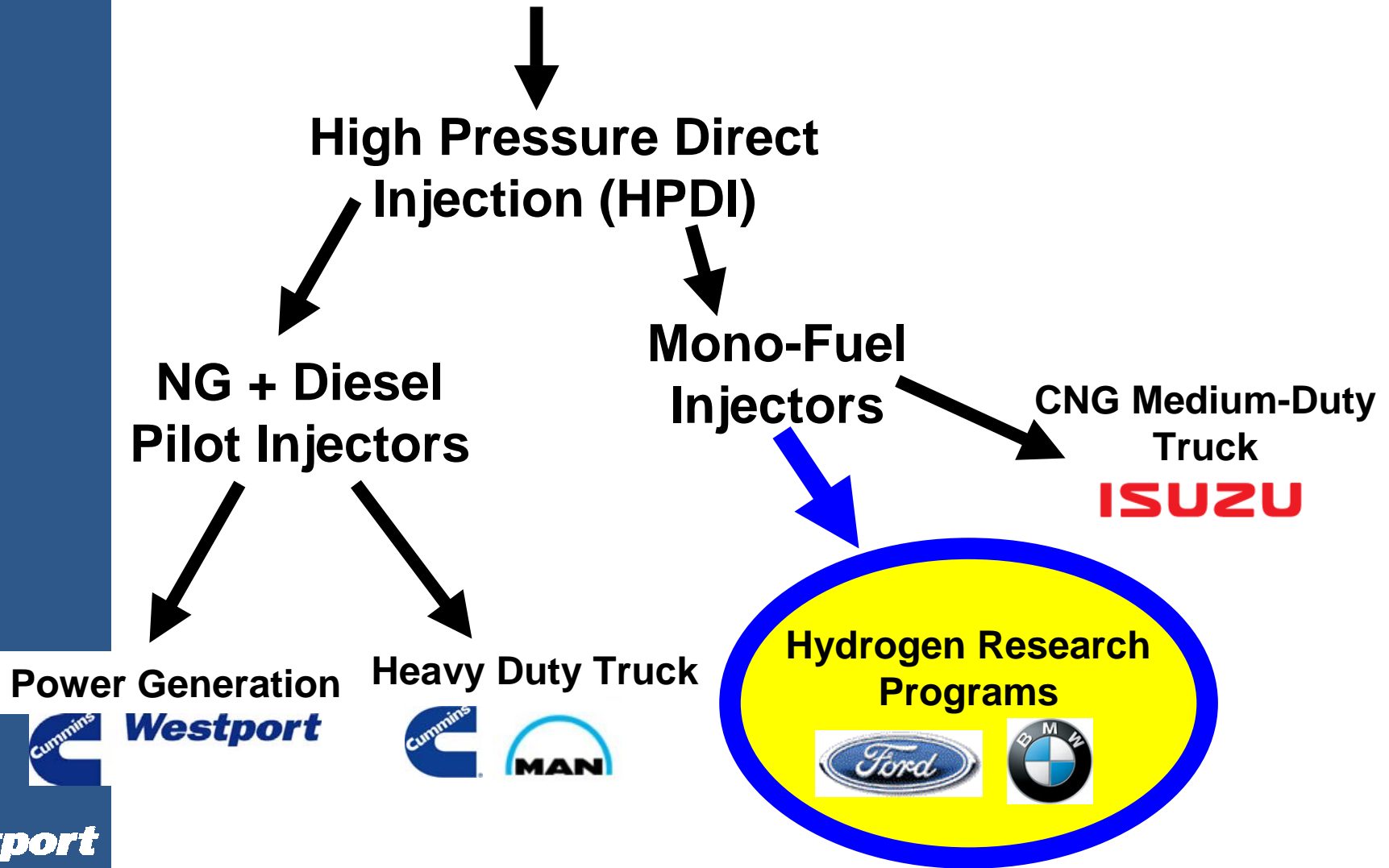
- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| • Sacré-Davey Engineering | • QuestAir Technologies,                      |
| • Westport Innovations    | • ERCO Worldwide                              |
| • BC Hydro/Powertech Labs | • Natural Resources Canada - CTFCA            |
| • Clean Energy            | • Sustainable Development Tech. Canada (SDTC) |
| • Dynetek Industries      | • Industry Canada - TPC H2 Early Adopters     |
| • Nuvera Fuel Cells       |   |





# High Pressure Technology Applications

## Direct Injection Approach (with Assisted Ignition)





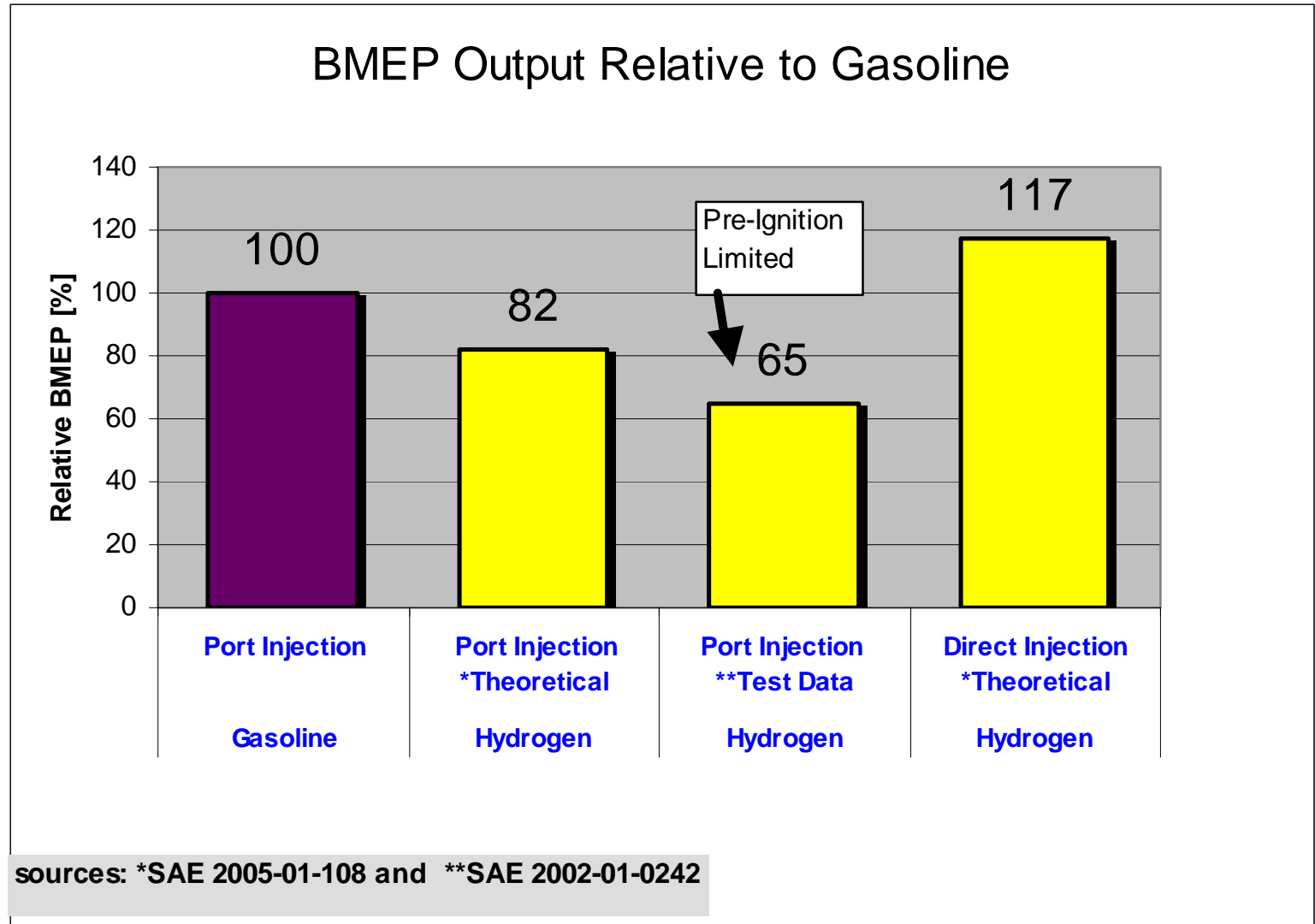
# 100% Hydrogen: Internal Combustion Engines

---

- **Options:**
  - ▶ Low pressure port-injection (generally limited by pre-ignition)
  - ▶ High pressure direct injection (diesel-like benefits)
- **Strong interest** from Ford\* and BMW\* in direct injection due to:
  - ▶ Eliminates hydrogen backflash or pre-ignition
  - ▶ Allows high CR > 14
  - ▶ High efficiency
  - ▶ High power density
  - ▶ Low emissions potential (with proper control).
  - ▶ near term opportunities for ICE's to support hydrogen economy and compliments fuel cell efforts.



# H2 Direct Injection - High Torque /Power Potential

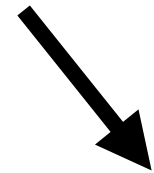




# Direct Injection Technology



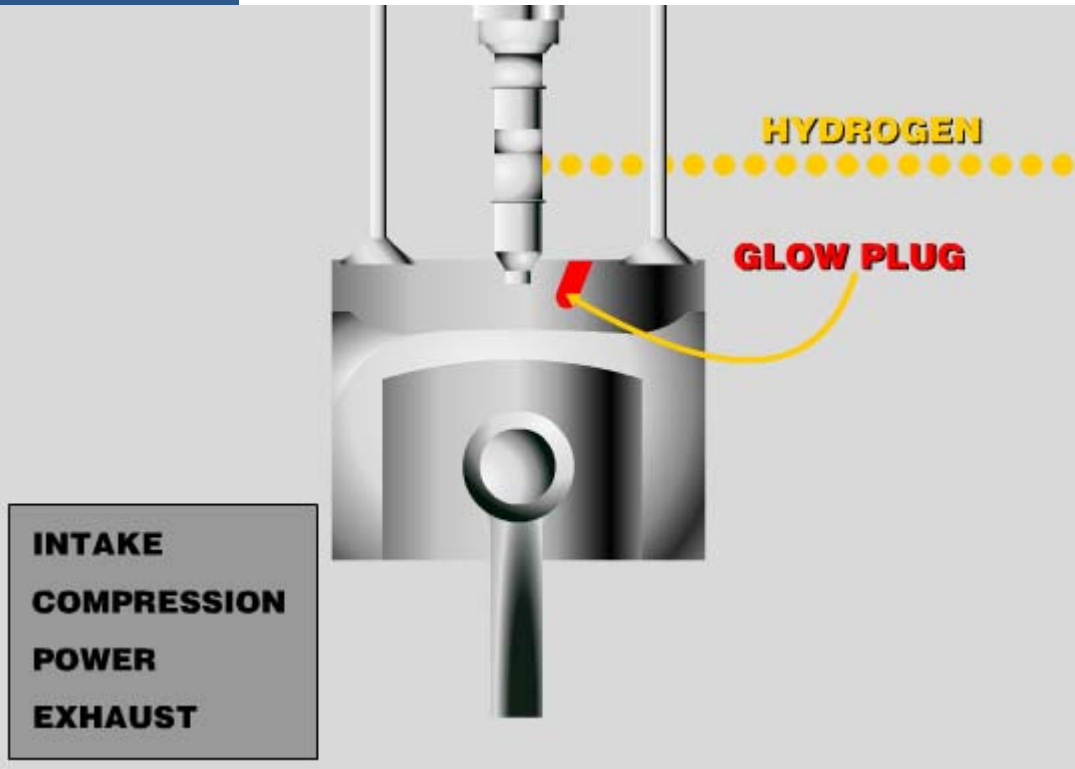
High Pressure Direct Injection (HPDI)



Mono-Fuel Injectors  
-used by Isuzu (NG) and Ford, BMW (H2)

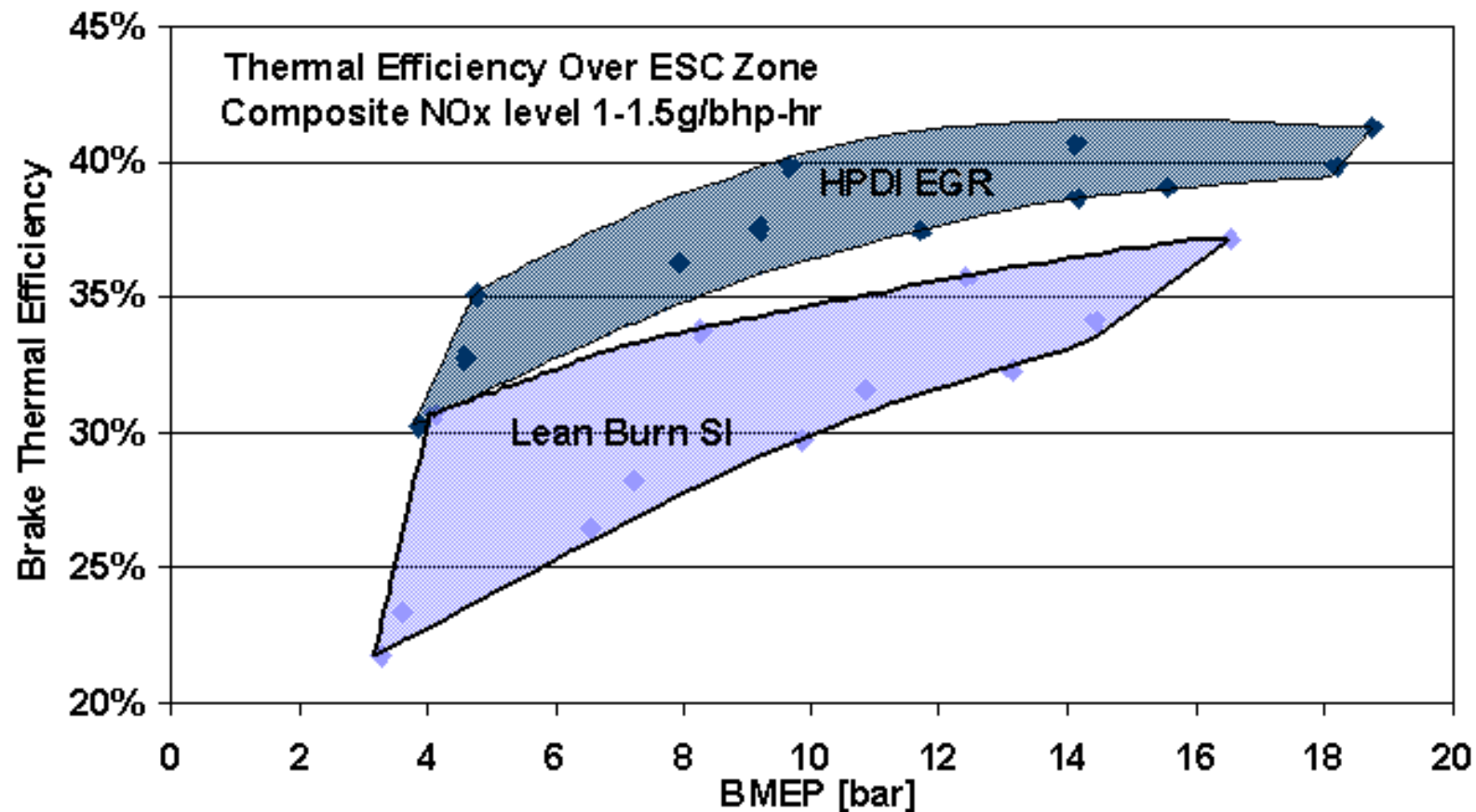


NG + Pilot Diesel Injectors





# Direct Injection Efficiency Advantage (CNG Data)





# H2 Direct Injection - Emissions

- At vehicle, green house gases ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) are essentially eliminated
- Hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide are virtually zero.
- Oxides of nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_x$ ) can be controlled to ultra-low levels using very lean strategy, EGR and if necessary,  $\text{NO}_x$  traps/aftertreatment.

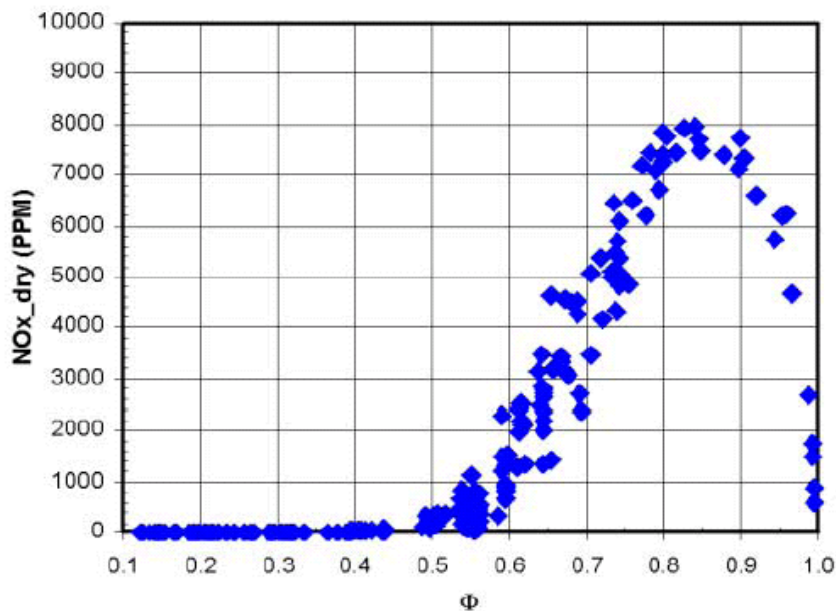


Figure 14.  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration vs  $\Phi$

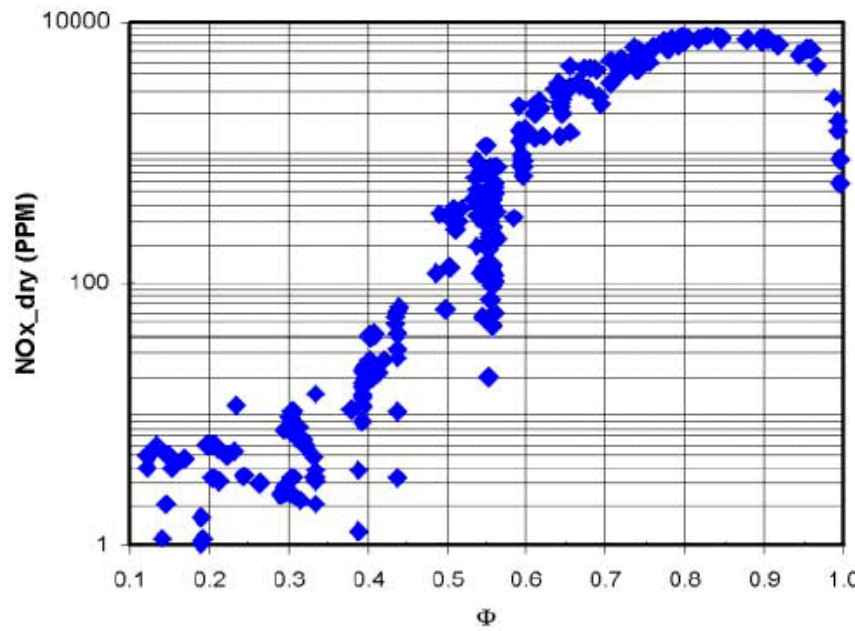


Figure 15. Log  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration vs  $\Phi$





# Summary Benefits of H<sub>2</sub> Direct Injection

---

- H<sub>2</sub> DI eliminates pre-ignition
- High Torque (BMEP) and Power
- High Efficiency (Diesel-like)
- Low NO<sub>x</sub> potential (with proper control)
- Virtually zero HC, CO and CO<sub>2</sub>



# Conclusions

---

- CNG based technology can be definitely leveraged to effectively use hydrogen in ICE's.
- HCNG technology has allowed us to put early stage hydrogen technology on the road.
- Early H<sub>2</sub>-ICE DI work shows significant technical benefits / potential and will likely be the best path forward.
- Advanced hydrogen DI technology can provide excellent hydrogen ICE performance and emission characteristics.
- Close collaboration between industry and government is essential to move technology forward.